

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication apparatus comprising:

means for connecting a computer network (such as a local area network, Internet, and the like;

5 means for connecting to a public telephone network;

facsimile reception means for receiving facsimile image data via the public telephone network;

means for receiving transfer destination information of e-mail data from the public telephone

10 network;

conversion means for converting the received facsimile image data into an e-mail data format; and

transmission means for designating an e-mail destination of the computer network on the basis of the

15 received transfer destination information, and

transmitting the e-mail data converted by said conversion means to the designated destination.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transmission means comprises destination designation

20 means for designating the e-mail destination of the computer network on the basis of the received transfer destination information, and postoffice designation means for designating a desired postoffice in an e-mail server of the computer network.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the transfer destination information and password information are received from the public telephone network, it is checked if e-mail transfer destination information corresponding to the transfer destination information is set in advance and if the received password information matches password information set in advance, and the converted e-mail data is transmitted in accordance with the checking results.

10 4. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storage means for registering in advance e-mail address information of the e-mail destination in correspondence with numeral information, and

15 wherein the transfer destination information is received as numeral information, and the address information of the e-mail destination corresponding to the received numeral information is read out from said storage means to designate the e-mail destination.

20 5. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the password information is received as numeral information.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the transfer destination information is received by a tone signal.

7. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the tone signal is a DTMF signal.

8. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 means for selecting whether the public telephone network is released or facsimile reception via the public telephone network is started, when the transfer destination information and a signal related to a facsimile communication are not received within a
10 prescribed time for monitoring signal reception from the public telephone network after call reception from the public telephone network.

9. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the transfer destination information is received by a
15 protocol signal of a facsimile communication protocol.

10. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the password information is received by a protocol signal of a facsimile communication protocol.

11. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the
20 protocol signal of the facsimile communication protocol is a subaddress signal or selective polling signal of the T.30 recommendation.

12. The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the protocol signal of the facsimile communication protocol

is a password signal of the T.30 recommendation.

13. A communication method for a communication
apparatus which is connected to a computer network such
as a local area network, Internet, or the like, and a
5 public telephone network, and has a facsimile
communication function, comprising the steps of:

receiving a remote instruction from the public
telephone network;

receiving facsimile image data via the public
10 telephone network;

converting the received facsimile image data into
an e-mail data format; and

designating an e-mail destination of the computer
network in accordance with the received remote
15 instruction, and transmitting the converted e-mail data
to the designated destination.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the
remote instruction includes transfer destination
information and password information of e-mail data, it
20 is checked if e-mail transfer destination information
corresponding to the transfer destination information is
set in advance and if the received password information
matches password information set in advance, and the
converted e-mail data is transmitted in accordance with

the checking results.

15. The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

designating the e-mail destination of the computer
5 network on the basis of the received transfer destination information, and designating a desired postoffice in an e-mail server of the computer network.

16. The method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

10 registering in advance e-mail address information of the e-mail destination in storage means in correspondence with numeral information, and

receiving the transfer destination information as numeral information, and reading out the address
15 information of the e-mail destination corresponding to the received numeral information from said storage means to designate the e-mail destination.

17. The method according to claim 14, wherein the password information is received as numeral information.

20 18. The method according to claim 14, wherein the transfer destination information is received by a tone signal.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the tone signal is a DTMF signal.

20. The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

selecting whether the public telephone network is released or facsimile reception via the public telephone network is started, when the transfer destination information and a signal related to a facsimile communication are not received within a prescribed time for monitoring signal reception from the public telephone network after call reception from the public telephone network.

21. The method according to claim 14, wherein the transfer destination information is received by a protocol signal of a facsimile communication protocol.

22. The method according to claim 14, wherein the password information is received by a protocol signal of a facsimile communication protocol.

23. The method according to claim 21, wherein the protocol signal of the facsimile communication protocol is a subaddress signal or selective polling signal of the T.30 recommendation.

24. The method according to claim 22, wherein the protocol signal of the facsimile communication protocol is a password signal of the T.30 recommendation.

25. A storage medium which stores a computer program

executed by a computer of a communication apparatus which is connected to a computer network such as a local area network, Internet, or the like, and a public telephone network, and has a facsimile communication

5 function, said computer program having:

processing of receiving a remote instruction from the public telephone network;

processing of receiving facsimile image data via the public telephone network;

10 processing of converting the received facsimile image data into an e-mail data format; and

processing of designating an e-mail destination of the computer network in accordance with the received remote instruction, and transmitting the converted
15 e-mail data to the designated destination.

26. The medium according to claim 25, wherein the remote instruction includes transfer destination information and password information of e-mail data, it is checked if e-mail transfer destination information
20 corresponding to the transfer destination information is set in advance and if the received password information matches password information set in advance, and the converted e-mail data is transmitted in accordance with the checking results.

27. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said computer program further has:

processing of designating the e-mail destination of the computer network on the basis of the received transfer destination information, and designating a desired postoffice in an e-mail server of the computer network.

28. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said computer program further has:

processing of registering in advance e-mail address information of the e-mail destination in storage means in correspondence with numeral information, and

processing of receiving the transfer destination information as numeral information, and reading out the address information of the e-mail destination corresponding to the received numeral information from said storage means to designate the e-mail destination.

29. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said computer program further has processing of receiving the password information as numeral information.

30. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said computer program further has processing of receiving the transfer destination information by a DTMF signal.

31. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said

computer program further has:

processing of selecting whether the public
telephone network is released or facsimile reception via
the public telephone network is started, when the
5 transfer destination information and a signal related to
a facsimile communication are not received within a
prescribed time for monitoring signal reception from the
public telephone network after call reception from the
public telephone network.

10 32. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said
computer program further has processing of receiving the
transfer destination information by a protocol signal of
a facsimile communication protocol.

33. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said
15 computer program further has processing of receiving the
password information by a protocol signal of a facsimile
communication protocol.

34. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said
computer program further has processing of receiving the
20 transfer destination information by a subaddress signal
or selective polling signal of the T.30 recommendation.

35. The medium according to claim 26, wherein said
computer program further has processing of receiving the
password information by a password signal of the T.30

recommendation.

36. A communication system including a communication apparatus which is connected to a computer network such as a local area network, Internet, or the like, and a
5 public telephone network, and has a facsimile communication function, and an e-mail server of the computer network,

wherein said communication apparatus receives facsimile image data via the public telephone network
10 upon reception of a remote instruction from the public telephone network, converts the received facsimile image data into an e-mail data format, and transmits the e-mail data by designating an e-mail destination in accordance with the received remote instruction, and
15 said e-mail server receives the transmitted e-mail data in a postoffice corresponding to the e-mail destination.

37. A communication apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for connecting various types of networks
20 which have unique format and address respectively;
 - (b) means for receiving information data with destination address data via said networks;
 - (c) means for changing a format of said destination address data into another format
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corresponding to another type of network.

38. The apparatus according to claim 37, wherein said types of networks include a computer network such as a local area network.

5 39. The apparatus according to claim 37, wherein said types of networks include a public telephone network.